

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY

Council of the Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science

Minutes of Meeting 98-8

Held

Friday, December 4, 1998 at 10:00 a.m. in H-769

Present: Dr. N. Esmail (Chair); Dr. R. Bhat; Dr. B.C. Desai; Ms. L. El-Ayachi;
Dr. D.J. Ford; Dr. W. Ghaly; Dr. J.C. Giguère; Dr. G.J. Gouw;
Dr. F. Haghighat; Dr. V.S. Hoa; Dr. K. Khorasani; Dr. H.F. Li;
Dr. O. Moselhi; Dr. J. Opatrny; Ms. C. Paradisis (Secretary);
Dr. E.I. Plotkin; Dr. H.B. Poorooshab; Dr. A. S. Ramamurthy;
Dr. J. Svoboda; Mr. B. Torab; Dr. C.W. Trueman; Ms. J. Zhou;
Dr. R. Zmeureanu.

Regrets: Dr. T. Fancott; Ms. L. Harris; Dr. J. Jans; Prof. M. Silas

Observers: Ms. E. Xenos

1. Adoption of Agenda

Motion 98-08-01 The agenda was unanimously adopted. (B.C. Desai, S.V. Hoa)

2. Adoption of Minutes

Motion 98-08-02 The Minutes of Meeting 98-07 (30 October 1998) were unanimously adopted. (G.J. Goew, J.C. Giguère)

3. Chair's Remarks

The Chair summarized what has been happening in the Faculty. He stated that things are falling into place and moving in the right direction.

- The space committee is working on planning space utilization in the new building which the Chair stated may be ready within three years.
- The Faculty is in the process of hiring an Industrial Liaison person who will assume, follow and expand on contacts already made with industry.

- A Memorandum of Understanding has been signed with Forintek, which will create a Wood Building Envelope Industrial Chair at Concordia.
- The School for Building name change has been approved by Senate and is now officially the Department of Building, Civil and Environmental Engineering.
- Negotiations with the Telecommunications representatives are putting Concordia on the *avant-garde* of this field in Quebec. Concordia is poised to offer an option in Telecommunications and to establish an international centre of learning in Telecommunications.

The Chair stated that these are exiting times for Engineers and Computer Scientists. He expressed a conviction that this will last well into the next decade and that the Faculty is poised to take full advantage of this.

4. **Slot Courses (ECFC Doc. 98-8-1)**

Motion 98-08-3 That Council of the Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science approves that course MECH 6XX be offered as a slot course.
(R. Bhat, S.V. Hoa)

Vote: carried unanimously

Motion 98-08-4 That Council of the Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science approves that course ENGR 690XX be offered as a slot course.
(R. Bhat, O. Moselhi)

Vote: carried unanimously

5. **Ph.D. Program Guidelines (ECFC Doc. 98-8-2)**

Dr. Bhat stated that periodic changes in the Guidelines for the Ph.D. Program were substantial. It was felt that the Faculty should be informed of these changes. A committee was set-up chaired by Dr. Ramachandran, which had representatives from each department in the Faculty. After extensive consultations, a draft was sent to the departments, comments were added and the document was presented to the ECSGSC.

These guidelines are there to simplify the understanding of the regulations and to assist all those involved in the administration of the Faculty's Ph.D. Programs. It supplements the regulations in the current Graduate Calendar.

Discussion ensued.

The following issues raised particular concern:

- Distinction between regulations and guidelines
- Common math exams for faculty
- Faculty wide standards for exams
- Role of external examiners
- Guidelines for full-time students switching to part-time studies
- Comprehensive exams time schedule
- Conflict resolution between student and supervisor

Dr. Bhat invited comments and suggestions to be sent to him. It was suggested that this document be brought back to the Council for further discussion at a later date.

6. Other Business

There was no other business.

7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10: 50 a.m.